

DEATH OF HON. W. C. PARKE.

A Pioneer of 1842, and One of Our Oldest Residents Gone to His Rest.

Early on Wednesday morning, the 29th ult., WILLIAM COOPER PARKE died at his residence at the Hawaiian Hotel. He had been suffering from heart disease for several months, but it was only quite recently that the malady gained such an ascendancy that no medical skill could avert the fatal result.

Mr. Parke was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, September 21, 1821, and was consequently in his sixty-eighth year. His boyhood was spent in that city, and he attended there a school taught by the father of the late Chief Justice Harris, the latter being one of his schoolmates. Later on, the family removed to Boston, where William went into a cabinet and furniture establishment and learned the trade. On arriving of age he decided to migrate to these islands, where some of his acquaintances had preceded him, among them Capt. Charles Brewer, Jas. F. B. Marshall, H. A. Pierce, G. B. Gilman and others. He left Boston in the fall of 1842, in the brig Delaware, of which Capt. David P. Penhallow, an old Portsmouth fellow-townsmen, was master, and arrived here in the spring of 1843. He soon after went into partnership with the late B. A. S. Wood, and for several years they did a good business, on Hana street. In 1849 he visited the gold mines in California, and returned in 1850.

Soon after, Governor Kekuanaoa appointed him Marshal of the Hawaiian Kingdom, which office he filled well and honorably for thirty-four years, or till 1884. He was the only person who could ever say that he had assisted in the accession and burial of four Kings of Hawaii, from Kamehameha III. to Kalakaua I. The Marshal in those days having had charge of royal burials.

During his long incumbency of the Marshalship, he probably did more to give stability to the Government, and to secure peace and quiet to the people than any other one man. We remember two occasions illustrating these points—one being the sailor riot, in which Consul Allen and the Marshal went boldly in among the defiant crowd that held possession of the water front, and brought the rioters to a standstill, followed soon after by peace. The other was when the gang of filibusters arrived here in the clipper ship frame Cook, with the avowed purpose of overthrowing the Government. It was in a great measure owing to his firmness and determination that they accomplished nothing, and returned to San Francisco wiser if not better men.

Throughout his whole official career of thirty-four years, he exercised great influence over the several reigning Kings and people, and on very many occasions he was sent for to give advice on the questions of the day. About fifteen years ago he was made a Privy Councillor, and was decorated with two of the royal orders. His dismissal from office in 1884, by the Gibson administration, for no fault or maladministration, but solely because he would not consent to be made a tool of, was a gross injustice and a stain which received the prompt condemnation of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the members of the bar, without a single exception. He simply shared the fate of many other faithful Government officers, who were dismissed about the same time and in the same scandalous manner.

In the year 1847, he with a number of residents organized the Excelsior Lodge of I. O. O. F., and was one of its original charter men; being, only one of whom is now living, G. D. Gilman, Esq., of Boston. He was always an active member, and will always be remembered by his brethren here and abroad for his unfailing generosity and kindness to strangers and friends, some of whom had no claim on him. Mr. Parke was a member of the Masonic order, and of several benevolent societies.

In 1856, Mr. Parke married Miss Anna Severance, daughter of a former American Minister Resident here of the United States, and she with their four children survive him, two (a son and daughter) being now in Boston, though they are expected out in July. Mr. H. W. Severance, postmaster of Hilo, (the latter now in town) are his brothers-in-law.

During his long residence in this city of over forty-six years, he has been held in high estimation by all who knew him, and by none more than by those who have had frequent business transactions with him. His official duties were of such a nature as to bring him often in conflict with the private interests of many people; yet his conduct and dealings with them seldom failed to inspire them with respect, however harshly he may have had to deal with them. Many a culprit has found that he possessed a kind and forgiving heart. As one of his associates remarked, he would work night and day to convict a rogue, and yet, if the fellow was sentenced to be hung, and had any meritorious traits, no one would strive harder to get him pardoned. The funeral took place from the Fort Street Church at 3 p. m. Friday, May 31.

THE HILO MURDER TRIAL.

Accessories Acquitted—Address of the Chief Justice to the Convicted Murderer—The Death Sentence Pronounced Against Him.

TWO TRIALS.

The case of the King vs. Yagi and Yaguchi (Japs), charged with a murderous assault on a Chinaman at Kohala, came on for trial and a verdict of guilty was rendered. The Attorney-General and Mr. Creighton for the Crown; Mr. Katsura for the defense. The next was that of the King vs. Wo San, for the murder of Quon Yip at Honouliuli, Hilo, last July, and indicted as accessories with him were Lam Geo, alias Aki, and Ten Yick. Seventy-five persons were examined, and a day or two elapsed, before an unbiased jury was obtained. The Attorney-General assisted by Mr. Creighton was for the prosecution; Messrs. Neumann, V. V. Ashford, D. H. Hitchcock and Miss Hitchcock for the prisoners. The jury have been quartered in the Old Coney premises, when out of Court.

The following was specially written for the GAZETTE:

The May term of the Circuit Court of the Third Judicial Circuit was held at Hilo, Hawaii, opening on May 7th and closing May 27, 1889. Fifty-nine cases were disposed of, there being fourteen jury trials. The "Honouliuli murder" case occupied eight days and resulted in a verdict of conviction against Wo San of murder, and of acquittal in favor of Aki and Ten Yick, charged as accessories before and after the fact. On sentencing Wo San the Chief Justice said: "We San: You have been convicted by the jury of one of the highest crimes known to the law, that of murder. The jury which heard the evidence in your case and found you guilty of this awful crime were selected after a day and a half sitting in examining some seventy-five persons summoned to serve, and none were accepted in your case who disclosed a bias or prejudice from what they have heard against you. The main evidence against you was that of accomplices with you in this crime, but this oral evidence has been substantiated and corroborated in so many particulars by undisputed facts and circumstances as to leave no doubt in the mind of the Court that you were one of those ten who killed Kwon Yip."

I am of opinion that this man rendered himself obnoxious to you and others of your class by reason of his having become an informer to the authorities of the offenses too common among the Chinese, of having opium in possession, of gambling and illicit selling of intoxicating liquors. I think there is no doubt that this murder was planned in a room of the Yee Wo Hing Co., in this town, a society formed from among the Chinese, with a large membership, with ostensible objects which are good and praiseworthy as shown by its rules which were hung in its hall where the public could see them. Enough has been shown during this trial to create a strong suspicion that the real character of this Society is of a far different nature than its public rules would indicate, and certainly if such bloody deeds are concocted in its sanctuary as that shown to the jury in your case, it is a most dangerous organization and a standing menace to the peace and good order of our community. The death of this obnoxious man was deliberately planned and he was by you allured to a lonely place in a valley away from public notice, there feasted to surfeiting, drugged with intoxicating liquors and opium and his life crushed out of him, and his poor body carried like a dumb brute to the beach and there buried again in a secret and secluded spot. But conscience haunts the guilty, and to avoid the detection of this crime, the bones of the victim were again disinterred and buried in secret and unlikely places and distributed where it was hoped they would not be brought to the light of day. But these very means of avoiding detection have proved in the providence of God to be the means of your conviction. I think the thanks of the Government and the community are due to the Sheriff of this Island whose patience and skill finally brought this dark and wicked deed to light. It is much to be regretted that no others of your co-conspirators and co-murders have been arrested. All who took part in and witnessed this murder have escaped, as is thought, from this kingdom, except you and those who have been used as witnesses for the State.

The law says that your life is forfeited as the penalty for having participated in the killing of Kwon Yip. I earnestly exhort you to prepare for the eternity into which you will soon be ushered by repentance of your sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Prisoner at the bar, listen to the sentence of the law: It is that you be taken hence to the place of your confinement in the prison of the Island of Oahu, there to remain until the first Monday in the month of August next, and that on that day between the hours of 8 o'clock in the morning and 12 o'clock at noon within the walls of said prison, you be hung by the neck until you are dead; and may God have mercy on your soul!

The Old Story. The Queenslander, an Australian journal, thus refers to the incidents of the Samoa hurricane: "Above all the shrieks of the storm fiends, doing to death so many brave men, will rise the echo of that fraternal cheer with which the Trenton tars greeted their cousins of the Calliope as the latter steamed forth in the face of the furious gale and roaring seas. But for the untoward fact of the engine-room of the Trenton being swamped and her fires put out, she would have braved the cyclone side by side with the British ship, and like her remained an anchorage unharmed. When the English fleet was repulsed before the Taku forts it was a Yankee captain that turned his guns on the Chinese troops with the pithy remark that 'blood is thicker than water.' So now in Samoa, the two people sprung from the same common head, speaking the same tongue, obeying the same laws, and worshipping the same God, in the times of mutual dire travail show the same enduring front, and recognize each other's kindred thoughts in spite of Alahama claims, Canadian fishing troubles, or, still worse, the no-country pestilent growlers who chide at everything and are fit for nought but safe slander."

HILO NEWS LETTER.

The Court—Music and Literary Treat—Improvements—Etc.

Well, the Court is pan. Of course, some were glad to see so many persons here, as some of the unfortunates as well as the fortunate leave money in the town. The restaurants and lodging places welcome the crowd with open doors and open arms. On the last night of the Court there were a few drunken people around who were favored with lodgings at the Government lock-up, —the first lot of drunken men seen here in some time. Maybe they wished to drown their sorrows in the flowing cup. Cases going against them, or delighted to have cases decided in their favor—all sorts of excuses to drink. The Court was in session eighteen days, nine days of which were occupied with the Honouliuli murder case. On the last night of this case the lawyers did not get through summing up until 12 o'clock midnight. Then came the Judge's charge to the jury which was delivered at 2:45 a. m. Nine of the jury stood for conviction and three for acquittal. His Excellency C. W. Ashford deserves special mention for the mastery way he handled the case from first to last. The defendant's lawyers also deserve special mention as they stood their ground nobly, and would not give up until driven to the wall; but all their pleadings were of no avail. Two of the three of the accused were let go as there was not enough evidence to convict them, although some believed them to be guilty. The Sheriff has worked up this case well, and certainly is entitled to great credit, for there is not a lazy bone in his body and he can see a point as quick as a wink.

The Hilo Literary and Musical Club met at the house of L. Severance, Esq., on the 25th inst., to listen to an excellent programme provided by Mr. Lyman and Mr. J. Moir. Some visitors were late in coming—being detained by the Court. The vocal solos were rendered by Mrs. J. P. Sisson, and Mrs. Douglas Monsarrat; the last mentioned lady is from Honolulu, and has a well cultivated voice and sings as though it were a pleasure to give others pleasure. Mr. C. C. Kennedy sang a Scotch song. There were two piano solos rendered by Miss Helen Severance and Mrs. Darling. The last mentioned who is from Oakland, Cal., played on Mrs. Severance's grand Decker piano, the tone of which is pure, even and musical. Readings by Mr. Gibbs of Waimuku, J. Stevens O'Dowd of Waialeale, and last but not least His Excellency the Attorney-General C. W. Ashford gave a beautiful recitation, quite lengthy, but most excellent. It gave great pleasure, for few persons could have done better justice to the selection. Mrs. W. E. Scott gave a recitation. She is always a treat to listen to. At the close there was a farce in which Mrs. J. A. Scott, Miss Deyo and Mr. Waiol participated. It brought down the house.

The extension to the wharf is progressing rapidly and it will aid merchants and passengers greatly when completed. It will be ready for business soon, and when it is there will be a boom, for Hilo has a future before it, not behind it. This town is bound to rise and shine, not all moonshine either about this matter of the future of Hilo. A large weekly paper will also be published. A circular railroad will be built to take passengers to Waialeale. In time, a bridge over the Waialeale, a magnificent shell road along the beach, a fine hotel with unexceptionable accommodations, and Hilo will have a name that will live, as it has been proven that it is lava proof—thus far, at least.

Samples of lava were lately sent to Washington to see if lava was of any value as a fertilizer, and answer was returned that lava was worthless, and giving the analysis of each sample sent. On the evening of Queen Victoria's birthday, the Catholic Mission Band were out and played the whole evening. Hilo, May 27. J. A. M.

IMPORTERS' INVOICES.

The Basis Upon Which Consuls Make Claims Against the Government.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Colonel John Mosby argued to-day a case before the Solicitor of the Treasury in the interest of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. It appears that Collectors of Customs have been in the habit of exacting a form of importers' certified consular invoices for goods of the free list. Mosby contended that the practice was not justified by either the letter or the spirit of the statute, which only requires such invoices for goods subject to ad valorem duty, for the purpose of ascertaining their cost or value; that, as free goods pay no duty, their cost or value is immaterial to the Government. The Court of Claims in its recent decision in Colonel Mosby's case sustained this position, and decided that fees for such invoices belonged to the Consul, as it was not his duty to certify them for shippers.

Ceylon people are interested in a rivalry as to who shall find the highest palm tree. An English railroad builder named Cantrell made the first record at 110 feet, but Mr. Paton Gray has just shown a palm 117 feet high, and takes the medal.

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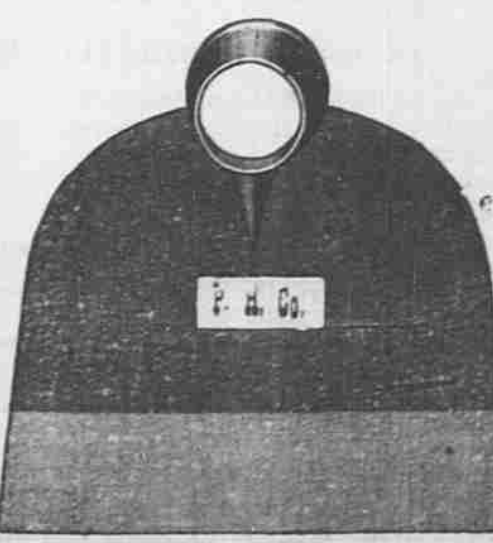
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